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EDIC/WG-Propellants
Control Number 487784
30 July 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: EDIC Working Group on Propellants and Fuel Additives
FROM : Chairman, EDIC/WG-Propellants
SUBJECT : CIA Report on High-Energy Boron Fuels

1. Your attention is called to a recent Scientific Intelligence Report entitled, "Soviet Research on High-Energy Boron Fuels" (CIA SI 20-58, 2 June 1958, C., 11 pp), which states the following conclusions:

The Soviets have been engaged, since at least 1949, in a boron fuel program which is small but technically efficient and on a level of competence comparable to that of the West.

The volume and quality of the research indicates that the Soviets have achieved pilot-plant production of diborane (an intermediate in the production of boron hydrides and organoboron compounds). Plant 94 in Moscow is probably the plant involved.

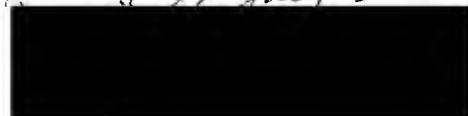
The synthesis of boron compounds and the study of their physical-chemical properties is concentrated primarily in the Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry imeni N. S. Kurnakov, Moscow. Some of the work was formerly done at the Laboratory of Peroxidic Compounds, also in Moscow, which was integrated into the Institute in October 1953.

2. If you have not seen this report and are interested in learning some of the background and details which lead to the above-quoted conclusions, copies of it should be readily available to you through your regular channels of liaison with CIA.

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*This memorandum was sent to the 17 July last by
members and also to the 24th.*



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